

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5658

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO,MNUC, NPG
SUBJ: NPG-COMMENT ON IS PAPER ON NPG FUTURE WORK PROGRAM

REF.: A. USNATO 5582 DTG 141650Z OCT 75
B. STATE 230141 DTG 261958Z SEP 75

1. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES COMMENTS IN IS PAPER ON THE NPG FUTURE WORK PROGRAM (REF A). WE REQUESTED WASHINGTON COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE ON THIS SUBJECT IN REF B FOR USE AT OCTOBER 20 NPG STAFF GROUP MEETING.
2. WASHINGTON WILL RECALL THAT THE PURPOSE OF SYG LUNS' PO ON NPG FUTURE WORK PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF ON-GOING AND POSSIBLE NEW WORK IN THE NPG IN ORDER TO FACILITATE ORDERLY DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT BY MINISTERS. ALTHOUGH NPG MEMBERS HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUGGEST WHAT MIGHT BE INCLUDED, THE PO REFLECTS ONLY THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S VIEWS, AND DOES NOT NECESSARILY IMPLY PRIOR AGREEMENT TO UNDERTAKE ANY ACTIONS THAT IT MIGHT RAISE.

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3. THE IS PAPER IS ONLY A ROUGH SKETCH OF WHAT MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN THE PO. WE HAVE COMMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS IT RAISES:

A) PARA 2 - IMPLICATIONS OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS.

THE US, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NPG TECHNOLOGY STUDY, SHOULD PREPARE A STATUS REPORT WHICH WOULD BE ATTACHED AS AN ANNEX TO THEPO. SINCE PROGRESS HAS BEEN SLOW, WE BELIEVE THE STATUS REPORT COULD BE SHORT, AND SIMILAR IN DETAIL TO THAT PREPARED LAST SPRING PRIOR TO THE MONTEREY MEETING. IT SHOULD BE COORDINATED WITH THE UK CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS TEAM, AND THE FRG CHAIRMAN OF THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS TEAM.

B) PARA 3 - MODERNIZATION OF THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE POSTURE. WE BELIEVE THE PO SHOULD NOTE THE KINDS OF ISSUES RAISED IN THE NUNN REPORT TO CONGRESS AND SUGGEST THAT THESE ARE ISSUES WHICH MINISTERS MAY WISH TO DISCUSS FURTHER AT HAMBURG.

C) PARA 4 - CONSULTATION PROCEDURES AND FACILITIES. WE BELIEVE THIS SUBJECT COULD BE DROPPED FROM THE PO. THERE IS PARTICULARLY NO NEED TO MENTION SACEUR'S REVISED WHISKEY MESSAGE FORMAT.

D) PARA 5 - IMPLEMENTATION OF ADM GUIDELINES. IN OUR VIEW, ONLY ISSUE HERE IS WHETHER NMA'S SHOULD PREPARE A STATUS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADM GUIDELINES, SINCE IT HAS BEEN OVER A YEAR SINCE THEY LAST PREPARED ONE. IF SHAPE BELIEVES THAT THERE IS SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS TO REPORT, AND IF WASHINGTON IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT A REQUEST FOR SUCH A REPORT, THEN WE BELIEVE THAT SHG LUNS COULD SUGGEST IN HIS PO THAT IT WOULD BE TIMELY FOR NMA'S TO PREPARE ONE IF ANSWERS TO EITHER OF THE ABOVE TWO CONDITIONS IS NO, THEN WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD RECOMMEND THAT THIS SUBJECT BE DROPPED FROM THE PO.

E) PARA 6 - WARSAW PACT STUDY - FOLLOW-ON WORK. WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO THE PO MENTIONING THE DPC INVITATION FOR POSSIBLE FOLLOW-ON WORK TO THE WARSAW PACT STRATEGY AND DOCTRINE STUDY, AS LONG AS THE INITIATIVE FOR PROPOSING SUCH WORK IS CLEARLY LEFT TO NATIONAL AUTHORITIES. THERE MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL

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RELEVANT SUBJECTS WHICH COULD BE USEFULLY ADDRESSED IN THE FUTURE BY THE NPG, E.G., WP CAPABILITIES.

F) PARA 7 - PRACTICAL AIDS TO DECISION MAKING (ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES). WE ASSUME WASHINGTON GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN REF B, PARA 3, APPLIES. THE SUBJECT COULD BE DROPPED, OR THE PO COULD NOTE THAT TASKING OF NEW ILLUSTRATIVE STUDIES SHOULD BE DEFERRED UNTIL PROGRESS IN OTHER AREAS, 3.G., PHASE III, HAS BEEN ACHIEVED.

G) PARA 8 - REGIONAL ASPECTS OF NATO'S NUCLEAR EMPLOYMENT POLICY. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS SUBJECT NEEDS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PO. STREATOR

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